



Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks, WC Docket No. 18-141

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Farm Supply Company. We are a local cooperative founded in 1950 and owned by 2700 farming and ranching families with 5 locations and 100+ employees serving the needs of agriculture in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. We are a longtime Digital West customer, and we urge you not to grant USTA's petition.

Digital West provides telephone service and a private network to support the operations of our stores for our 5 locations. Recently Digital West was able to upgrade our main location to their fiber optic network. Our other 4 locations are all served on the very facilities that the USTA petition seeks to eliminate.

Farm Supply Company chose to work with Digital West because of their unique ability to provide for most of the organization's needs, include a custom designed data network, at a lower cost than any other competitors in the marketplace. Digital West is very responsive and available 24 X 7 which is important to Farm Supply since we support farmers and ranchers who are always working.

Farm Supply Company has been able to work with Digital West as we have grown to 5 locations. If the USTA petition is granted, we would no longer be able to use the specialized network Digital West built to all of our locations. In addition we would not be able to reach out to local people who we know at any hour of the day or night to meet the needs of our hard working agricultural customers.

Please do not end the ability of providers like Digital West to offer an alternative to the incumbent telecom providers.

Sincerely,

Cara M. Crye  
President/CEO  
Farm Supply Company

A FARMER OWNED COOPERATIVE

224 Tank Farm Road, Post Office Box 111, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 • 805.543.3751

Also serving you in Arroyo Grande, Buellton, Paso Robles, and Santa Maria